US-89-8M

UNIVERSITY SENATE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 8 DECEMBER 1989

PRESENT: Dr. P. Kenniff (Chair); Dr. C. Giguère; Dr. M. Cohen; Me B. Gaudet; Dr. S. McEvenue; Prof. F.D. Hamblin; Ms K. Cox; Mr. I. St-Maurice; Acting Dean M. Falsetto, Prof. B. MacKay; Prof. D. Dicks; Dr. J. Lightstone; Dean M.N.S. Swamy; Prof. M. Anvari; Dean M.E. Szabo; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Prof. A. Rahman; Prof. P.D. Ziogas; Prof. R. Wills; Prof. K. Waters; Prof. N. Allison-Helms; Dean B. Counihan; Prof. R. Seppanen; Prof. M. Brian; Ms. Y. Jen; Ms. M. Sullivan; Mr. J. Serruya; Mr. R. Bratulic; Mr. A. Mate; Dean C.L. Bertrand; Prof. A.B. Doyle; Prof. T. Arbuckle-Maag.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Dr. R. Sheinin; Dean S.H. Appelbaum; Mr. B. Smart; Mr. C. Apostolakos.

Call to Order

89-8-1 The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm.

89-8-2 Dr. Kenniff advised that he was foregoing an intended remark before proceeding to the regular Agenda, in order to accede to a request from Ms. Yun Jen that she be permitted to address Senate.

Ms. Jen stated "that as a member of the Concordia community, as a student at Concordia, and more specifically as a female student in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, she wished to request that a minute of silence be observed in honour of the victims of the shooting at Ecole Polytechnique, and as a sign of support for their relatives and friends".

A minute of silence was observed.

Approval of Agenda

89-8-3 The Agenda, as presented, was approved.

Approval of Minutes

89-8-4 IT WAS MOVED BY PROF. STATHOPOULOS, SECONDED BY DEAN SZABO, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SENATE MEETING OF 3 NOVEMBER 1989 BE APPROVED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Remarks from the Chair

89-8-5 Dr. Kenniff, in commenting on what he described as "the terrible events that we were all a part of this week", stated that while they had affected society

in general, they had affected more directly universities in their daily functioning, and had given us an example of the terrible consequences that could result when something goes awry in the system; and that it was very difficult to find the appropriate words to express the grief and horror that everyone felt on hearing of the tragic events. He drew members' attention to three letters which he had written which had been circulated at the beginning of the meeting: - one, as President of CREPUQ on behalf of his colleagues, to the Acting Director of Ecole Polytechnique; the second on behalf of Concordia University, as Rector, also to the Director; and a third to the President of the Students' Association at Ecole Polytechnique. He further stated that all Quebec universities felt a sense of compassion and solidarity with their colleagues at Ecole Polytechnique; that beyond the normal and natural expressions of sympathy, attempts have been made to devise ways and means of offering assistance to Ecole Polytechnique, its staff, students, and friends; that Concordia has offered and, insofar as was possible, would attempt to assist particularly with respect to guidance services and use of physical facilities which would enable the students perhaps to write their examinations in a less traumatic environment. with respect to funeral arrangements, he advised that indications at the present time were that public services would be held for ten of the victims at 10:30 am, Monday, 11 December 1989 in Notre Dame Basilica, and that private ceremonies would be held for the families of the remaining four victims; that the bodies would be exposed in the Hall of Honour at l'Universit6 de Montréal on Saturday for the families of the victims, and on Sunday afternoon and evening for the general public; that some Quebec universities would be organizing memorial services simultaneous with the main funeral on Monday, 11 December 1989, at 10:30 am, including a service to be held in the Concordia University Chapel, Loyola Campus; that Monday would be a "day of mourning" for everyone, whether or not it was officially declared as such by the Government; that while the Minister of Higher Education and Science was not declaring that schools be closed, it was the feeling of the members of the Executive Committee of the Conference of Rectors that perhaps the best way to pay respects to the victims was to carry on with business as usual, and if possible, to interrupt activities at 10:30 am; and that members of the Concordia community who were able to do so, could honour their memory during the service to be held in the University Chapel. In addition, he announced that a sympathy notice on behalf of Concordia and the associations that represent its main constituent units, would be published in the daily newspapers on Monday. Concerning the question of possible preventive measures, and particularly calls for increased security, he advised that it was very difficult for an institution that was committed to accessibility, and which provides services to thousands of people, to institute the kind of security measures applicable with respect to boarding an airplane or accessing government offices; that in the light of these events, he has asked the Vice-Rector, Services to undertake a complete review of the University's security systems to ensure, insofar as was possible, that the security services and systems were functioning correctly, etc.; and that it was his personal belief that it was impossible, and probably not desirable, to extend to a university community some of the measures that might be envisioned in other quarters. Referring to the candlelight vigil which had been held last night at Ecole Polytechnique, Dr. Kenniff explained that it

was an initiative which had originated at Concordia and had been strongly supported by others, including many women's groups, and by the general public; and he congratulated those who had been associated with organizing the event for having had the thoughtfulness to do it, and for having done it so well so quickly. Finally, he reiterated his personal sense of tragedy with the events which had taken place, and expressed condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of the victims, and the hope that such an incident would never recur.

Dean Swamy, Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, advised that he had sent a letter of condolence yesterday morning to the families of the victims through the Acting Director of Ecole Polytechnique; that a letter has been drafted which would be sent to the faculty and staff, and posted on the bulletin boards for the students, concerning the services which would be held in the University Chapel; that Associate Dean Hamblin had been asked by the technicians in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science to convey to their colleagues at Ecole Polytechnique an offer to assist technically in any way possible; and that he had been interviewed yesterday by the Gazette in his capacity as Secretary of the National Committee of Deans of Engineering and Applied Science which was considering instituting an appropriate memorial in honour of the victims of the shooting.

Expressing a feeling of deep personal loss and anguish, Dr. Giguère, Vice-Rector, Services, advised that he had worked for many years with the administration, faculty and students at Ecole Polytechnique; that he knew personally the only two female past presidents of the Order of Engineers of Quebec, both of whom had graduated from the Ecole; and that the Concordia Council on Student Life had asked. him to convey, on behalf of all of the students at Concordia, a sense of oneness with the Ecole Polytechnique community vis-à-vis this tragic event. He also advised that pamphlets containing information with respect to counselling would be distributed at the end of examinations for the benefit of Concordia students who have been affected by the event and feel a need for such services.

89-8-6 In other remarks, Dr. Kenniff advised that as a result of addenda to submission materials, the opening of tenders for the downtown site originally scheduled for 6 December 1989 has been delayed to 15 December 1989.

Reports from Councils, etc.

89-8-7 Dr. McEvenue, in reporting on the appointment of Prof. Maurice St-Ives as head of the Comité conjoint des programmes of the Conseil des universities, advised that he was a geography professor and a former Vice-Dean at Laval University. He further advised that for the past 10 years, Prof. St-Ives has been the President of the Commission des études at Laval.

Graduate Curriculum Proposals

Ph.D. programme in Biology

89-8-8 With respect to this item, Dr. Kenniff drew members' attention to the following documents: the covering memorandum from the Chair, Board of Graduate Studies, (document US-89-8-Dl); the proposed Ph.D. programme in Biology, (document US-89-8-D2); the statement on Cost analysis, (document US-89-8-D3); and the report from the Academic Programmes Committee, (document US-89-8D7).

IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN SZABO, SECONDED BY DEAN BERTRAND, THAT THE PH.D. PROGRAMME IN BIOLOGY, AS PROPOSED IN DOCUMENT US-89-8-D2, BE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE, (DOCUMENT US-89-8-D7), FOR FORWARDING TO THE COMITE CONJOINT DES PROGRAMMES.

In presenting the proposed programme, Dean Szabo stated that the Division of Graduate Studies was extremely proud of Prof. R. Widden and Prof. E.J. Maly who had worked energetically and enthusiastically to produce the dossier in just over a year, which, he advised, represented a record in terms of the time required to produce a document of this complexity.

Dean Bertrand echoed the sentiments expressed above and broadened them to include others who had worked very hard on the proposal, particularly the current Vice-Rector, Academic, Dr. Sheinin, who, as an external evaluator, had assisted in the rewriting of the document and in putting it into a different and improved form. He also pointed out that the direct costs for the proposal were contained in document US89-8-D3; and he advised that the proposed programme had been a priority item for the Faculty of Arts and Science since the beginning of the planning process some two and a half years ago; that it was part of the overall priority of the Faculty to increase the number of graduate programmes; that the Faculty began the process with a department which had a very strong research component upon which to build, ie., the Biology Department; and that in this particular instance, the building process was already underway with one new faculty member in place, one who would be coming in April 1990, and an advertisement for the third position already having been sent out.

During the ensuing discussion which centred on the direct costs analysis contained in document US-89-8-D3, questions were raised and responded to concerning the interpretation of the information provided, including explanations with respect to new laboratory facilities and start-up funds to new faculty vis-à-vis monies which might be forthcoming from the Faculty Research Development Programme.

In response to a question concerning the possibility of seeking Government funding for additional faculty, it was pointed out that it has been the practice for many years that the "Fonds de développement pédagogique" only

provided funding on a "one-shot" basis; and it was suggested that if the Government agreed to such a request, and provided funding for one year, the University would be faced with the problem of having to find money to support the additional faculty on an ongoing basis. In addition, it was stated that the budget proposal should be realistic and true; that the University would make whatever reasonable commitments were necessary to establish the programme; that the proportion of the first-year costs to be recovered from the Government would be maximized; and that the ongoing costs must be budgeted for realistically.

The discussion continued to centre on the Direct Costs Analysis (document US-89-8-D3) and on the interpretation of the information provided in the various columns, particularly with respect to Space Requirements (item VI) and Start-up Funds to New Faculty (item VIII). With respect to item VI, it was explained that one of the required new laboratories was already established, that the money for the second laboratory was included in the Faculty's current budget, and that the estimated 150 thousand dollars which would be required next year for the third laboratory would have to come from some other source. It was further explained that the first column indicated the cost of a particular item, and that the remaining columns indicated the source of funding, the first two of which represented funding from within the Faculty and the final column indicated costs which would have to come from sources other than the Faculty. It was also suggested that the heading of the middle columns should be changed from "Operating Budget of the Faculty" to "Resources of the Faculty" because the costs referred to involved capital equipment, etc,. In addition, Senate was advised that the 150 thousand dollars referred to in item VI represented the anticipated cost of renovating space already existing within the Faculty, and that a detailed analysis of the requirements involved was being undertaken presently by the Department of Physical Resources. In response to a question concerning item IV, Dean Bertrand advised that the 20 thousand dollars indicated represented anticipated costs for teaching assistantships, etc,.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

In extending congratulations to Dean Bertrand, Dean Szabo, Dr. Widden, members of the Department of Biology, the Faculty of Arts and Science, and all those who had worked on what he described as an exiting and well-put-together proposal, Dr. Kenniff advised that the addition of such a programme to Concordia's graduate offerings represented a first step in the direction of his announced 5-year objective of building up academic excellence in the University.

Curriculum Modifications

Arts and Science

89-8-9 IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN SZABO, SECONDED BY DEAN BERTRAND, THAT THE PROPOSED GRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGES IN THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

(DOCUMENT US-89-8-D4) BE APPROVED, SUBJECT TO THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE (DOCUMENT US-89-8D7).

Dean Szabo advised that the proposed modifications were being presented in accordance with a new format whereby only those modifications which represented what were considered to be changes to the essential components of the programme were brought to Senate, ie., changes that affect the core of the programme or the audience for which the programme is intended.

With respect to the changes to the "C rule" in the Ph.D. programme in Communication Studies, Prof. Dicks advised that this was a joint Ph.D. programme, and that the Faculty of Arts and Science wished to withdraw the proposed modification from the package (page 2, document US-89-9-D4) pending notification and consultation with the other universities involved.

THE MOVER AND SECONDER AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE PH.D. PROGRAMME IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES, (PAGE 2, DOCUMENT US-89-8-D4), BE WITHDRAWN.

THE MOTION, AS CHANGED, WAS CARRIED.

Commerce and Administration

89-8-10 IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN SZABO, SECONDED BY PROF. WILLS, THAT THE PROPOSED GRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGES IN THE FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND ADMINISTRATION (DOCUMENT US-898-D5) BE APPROVED, SUBJECT TO THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE (DOCUMENT US-89-8-D7).

In presenting the proposed changes to the Master of Science in Administration programme, Dean Szabo urged Senate to endorse the initiative embodied in the programme vis-à-vis the establishment of a link or bridge between Computer Science and the Faculty of Commerce and Administration, which, he felt, was extremely important.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Engineering and Computer Science

89-8-11 IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN SZABO, SECONDED BY DEAN SWAMY, THAT THE PROPOSED GRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGES IN THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (DOCUMENT US-89-8-D6) BE APPROVED, SUBJECT TO THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES COMMITTEE (DOCUMENT US-89-8-D7).

Dean Szabo presented and explained the changes proposed with respect to the existing Options in the Master of Engineering programme. In addition,

Dean Swamy advised that the proposed changes were consistent with what was happening in the rest of the country and in the Province whereby the research programme would be designated with a M.Sc. degree, and the professional programme designated with a M.Eng. degree; and that this would enable the Faculty to attract highly qualified physicists and mathematicians who want to pursue their research orientations through the M.Sc. and Ph.D. programmes.

It was pointed out, and it was agreed that it be noted in the minutes, that what was being proposed was not the creation of new programmes, but rather the re-designation of existing programmes.

it was also suggested and agreed that an official letter be sent to both the Ministry of Education and the Council of Universities explaining the modifications, it being pointed out that the procedure which was slowly being implemented was that students enrolled in programmes that have not been approved officially, but which appear in the established list of programmes, would not be eligible for Government funding.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

The Julius and Ilka Ekler Book Prize in Judaic Studies.

89-8-12 IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN BERTRAND, SECONDED BY DEAN SZABO, THAT SENATE APPROVE AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JULIUS AND ILKA EKLER BOOK PRIZE IN JUDAIC STUDIES AS APPROVED BY THE ARTS AND SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL (DOCUMENT US-89-8-D8), AND RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF GRADUATE STUDIES (DOCUMENT US-89-8-D9).

Dean Bertrand advised that on behalf of the Department of Religion and the Faculty of Arts and Science, he publicly wished to express appreciation to Dr. Kurt Ekler and his wife for their generous offer with respect to the establishment of the proposed Book Prize in honour of Dr. Ekler's parents.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Dr. Kenniff stated that this was an interesting initiative in the direction of establishing more prizes to be offered to graduate students at Convocation; and that hopefully this would inspire the other Faculties as well.

Next Meeting

89-8-13 Dr. Kenniff advised that it had been anticipated that nominations for honorary degrees to be awarded at the 1990 Spring Convocation would be dealt with by Senate at its next meeting scheduled to be held on Friday, 5 January 1990, and by the Board of Governors at its meeting of 17 January 1990. However, he explained that with the exception of the Fine Arts Faculty Council, which had already done so, the nominations would not be considered by the other Faculty Councils until January, and particularly the

Arts and Science Faculty Council which would not be meeting again until 12 January 1990. He advised that he would welcome any thoughts which members might have with respect to this matter which would be considered by the Steering Committee on 19 December 1989. During the ensuing discussion, various scenarios were suggested, including the possibility of cancelling the Senate meeting of 5 January 1990, with the honorary degree nominations being considered and approved by the Board of Governors on 17 January 1990 subject to ratification by Senate at its meeting of 2 February 1990. It was suggested and agreed that if there was sufficient material to justify a Senate meeting on 5January 1990, a meeting would be held; that in accordance with the present schedule, Faculty Council recommendations vis-à-vis honorary degree nominations would be available before 17 January 1990, at which time the Board of Governors would make its decision, etc.; and that if the system became skewed in any way, members would be advised appropriately.

89-8-14 Before adjourning the meeting to customary celebratory libations, Dr. Kenniff extended his personal best wishes to all members for a restful and enjoyable holiday season.

Adjournment

89-8-15 The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

John Noonan
Secretary of Senate